

### **Remarks**

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 3, 5-14 and 17-25 stand rejected but contain allowable subject matter, claims 11 and 22-24 are objected to but contain allowable subject matter and claims 1, 2, 4, 15 and 16 have been allowed. By this amendment claims 3, 4-11, 13, 14, 17-19, 21, 23-25 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of all pending claims herein.

The Examiner objected to the disclosure, stating that the pages of the specification should be numbered. Applicants respectfully submit that the application as prepared and submitted for electronic filing using ABX and ePave software should contain page numbers in the upper right hand corner of the document. Applicants will provide a substitute specification upon request by the Examiner.

### **Claim Objections**

The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 22-24 due to a number of informalities. Claims 11 and 22 now recite "(LFSR)" following the first mention of a "linear feedback shift register" to provide a more direct antecedent for later references of the term. Claim 11 has also been amended to make terminology referring to the master-slave latch consistent. Claim 23 has been amended to delete the reference to a "second" logic stage. Finally, the spelling of "multiplexer" has been corrected in Claim 24.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112**

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 5-10, 14 and 17 through 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner indicated that the last two lines of claim 10 were indecipherable and

therefore fail to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended claim 10 in accordance with the Examiner's suggested changes and respectfully submit that claim 10 is condition for allowance.

The Examiner identified a number of recited elements in claims 3, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17-22 and 25 lacking a direct antecedent basis. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 3, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17-22 and 25 to correct the cited defects and respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been overcome and that all claims are in condition for allowance.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 5-10, 12, 13, 17-21, 23 and 24, stating that such claims would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants further acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 11, 14, 22 and 25, stating that such claims would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3, 5-11, 13, 14 and 17-25 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and are therefore in condition for allowance.

**Conclusion**

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted the application may be passed to issuance.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number listed below if, in the Examiner's opinion, such a phone conference would aid in furthering the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

For: John S. Austin, et al.

By: 

Michael J. LeStrange

Registration No. 53,207

Telephone No.: (802) 769-1375

Fax No.: (802) 769-8938

EMAIL: lestrang@us.ibm.com

International Business Machines Corporation  
Intellectual Property Law - Mail 972E  
1000 River Road  
Essex Junction, VT 05452

BUR920040014US1  
SN 10/708,236

11